

Application No. 10/085,499
Response to Final Office Action of September 27, 2005

PU010044

REMARKS

I. Status of the Application

Claims 26 and 33 are now pending in this application with the cancellation of claims 21-25, 27-32 and 34-39. In the September 27, 2005 Final Office Action, the Examiner:

A. Rejected claims 21-22, 25, 27-30, 34-35 and 38-39 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 4,314,304 to Baumbach in view of U.S. Patent 5,392,349 to Elder, Jr. and further in view of U.S. Patent 6,480,604 to Chandran;

B. Rejected claims 23-24, 31-32 and 36-37 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 4,314,304 to Baumbach in view of U.S. Patents 5,392,349 and 6,480,604 to Elder, Jr. and Chandran, and further in view of U.S. Patent 4,677,518 to Hershfield; and

C. Objected to claims 26 and 33 as allowable but dependent upon rejected base claims.

II. Claims 21-22, 25, 27-30, 34-35 and 38-39 Have Been Canceled

Claims 21-22, 25, 27-30, 34-35 and 38-39 have been canceled. Applicants thus respectfully submit that the rejection of claims 21-22, 25, 27-30, 34-35 and 38-39 under §103(a) is now moot. In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the §103(a) rejection of claims 21-22, 25, 27-30, 34-35 and 38-39.

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PU010044

III. Claims 23-24, 31-32 and 36-37 Have Been Canceled

Claims 23-24, 31-32 and 36-37 have been canceled. Applicants thus respectfully submit that the rejection of claims 23-24, 31-32 and 36-37 under §103(a) is now moot. In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the §103(a) rejection of claims 23-24, 31-32 and 36-37.

IV. Allowable Subject Matter (Claims 26 and 33).

In the September 27, 2005 Final Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 26 and 33 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants have rewritten claims 26 and 33 in independent form including all of the limitations of the respective base claim and any intervening claims.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the objection to claims 26 and 33.

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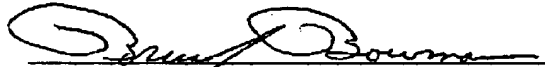
PU010044

V. Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that claims 26 and 33 are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of all rejections and objections, and that a timely Notice of Allowance of claims 26 and 33 be issued in this case.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Bruce J. Bowman
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 35,458

Bowman & Associates
1016 3rd Ave. SW Suite 205
Carmel, IN 46032
(317) 571-9301 phone
(317) 571-9302 fax

On Behalf Of:
Thomson Multimedia Licensing, Inc.
2 Independence Way
P.O. Box 5312
Princeton, NJ 08543-0512